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Cuckfield Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1959

BY

D. M. RICHARDSON

PRINTED AND SOLD BY THE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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M.R.C.S. ENG., L.R.C.P. LOND., D.P.H. ENG.

Charles Clarke (Haywards Heath) Ltd.
1960

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CUCKFIELD

REPORT

OF THE

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
OAKLANDS,

Tel. No. Haywards Heath 1301

HAYWARDS HEATH.

To the: Chairman and Members of the Cuckfield Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1959.

Since 1955, each year has brought an increase in the number of births and the Corrected Birth Rate of 15.51 now stands at its highest since 1954, when there were 15.65 births per thousand population. The Infant Mortality Rate of 19.18 compares favourably with the figure of 22 for England and Wales, but shows a slight increase on last year, when the I.M.R. was 17.86. During the year there were eight infant deaths under one year and four of these were due to severe congenital defects. Last year only one death was recorded under this heading. Four of the deaths occurred during the first month of life, giving a Neo-natal Mortality Rate of 9.59.

In the section headed " Vital Statistics for the Year " will be found a new figure relating to infant mortality. This figure, the Perinatal Mortality Rate, is a combination of the Still Birth Rate and the number of infant deaths occurring during the first week of life per 1,000 total births. In England and Wales the Perinatal deaths account for 80 per cent. of the total loss of infant life from the 28th week of pregnancy to the end of the first year. The Perinatal Mortality Rate provides a sensitive measure of the adequacy of the maternity services, including the quality of neo-natal care and the skilful management of labour. The figure of 23.7 for the Mid-Sussex area compares most favourably with the Perinatal Mortality Rate of 35.1 for England and Wales.

The total number of deaths registered during the year amounted to 319, 21 less than in 1958, in spite of the fact that the estimated increase in population during the year was nearly 800. The Corrected Death Rate for the year is 9.09, which compares favourably with last year's figure of 9.75. The Corrected Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.6. An analysis of the main causes of death will be found on page 13.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

The County Medical Officer administers this scheme and my Department co-operates by distributing leaflets and forms and also by giving information to parents on request.

In early 1960 the Ministry announced that the age limit for poliomyelitis immunisation was being raised to cover all persons, who, at the time of their application, were under 40. Other groups of persons who became eligible for immunisation, irrespective of age, were as follows:

1. People going to any country outside Europe, other than Canada and the U.S.A.

2. Practising dental surgeons, dental students, dental hygienists, dental surgeons' chairside assistants and their families.

3. Practising nurses not working in hospitals (hospital nurses are already eligible) and their families.

4. Public Health staff who might come into contact with cases of poliomyelitis and their families.

In the country as a whole, the response to this offer has so far been very poor indeed and it would seem that many people over 25 are under the impression that they have reached an age when poliomyelitis is no longer a hazard. The statistics which are available do not support this belief and I feel that attention should be drawn to the fact that 74 per cent. of those who died from poliomyelitis in 1958 were aged 15 and over, although only 30.3 per cent. of notifications related to this group. The age group 25 to 44 accounted for 48 per cent. of the total deaths.

The Ministry recently announced that at the end of 1959 registration for immunisation against poliomyelitis in England and Wales had passed the 13,000,000 mark. In the 16 to 26 age group 46 per cent. of those eligible had registered and almost all had been given at least two injections. In children (1943-59 age group) the acceptance rate had risen to 75.4 per cent., and a considerable number of these had received two or more doses.

In his Annual Report for 1958, the County Medical Officer reported that up to the end of that year 51,438 persons in East Sussex had received two injections and 10,986 had been given the third or boosting dose. The figures for 1959 will no doubt appear in the County Medical Officer's Report.

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year in this district.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

As there have been no cases of diphtheria in this district since 1947, it is necessary to look at the figures for England and Wales in order to discover how effectively this disease has been controlled. In 1938 there were 65,008 notifications of diphtheria in England and Wales, a number far greater than the combined population of the three districts under my supervision. In 1958 the number was 78.

There were 2,861 deaths in 1938, or enough to populate a village, and in 1958 there were only eight. On examination, however, these figures give no grounds for complacency and in his Annual Report for 1958 the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health has pointed out that, although from 1943 until 1957 each succeeding year showed a decrease in the number of notifications of diphtheria, there was, in fact, an increase in the number of cases in 1958 and the total exceeded the figures for both 1956 and 1957. During 1959, outbreaks of diphtheria occurred in several London boroughs and when the figures are published the number of notifications will undoubtedly exceed those for 1958. Outbreaks of this kind suggest that there is a hard core of infection existing in the country, which reveals its presence from time to time, and serves to remind us that immunising procedures cannot be allowed to lapse. Primary immunisation, carried out in childhood, is not enough because its effect gradually wanes and necessitates the administration of reinforcing doses later in life.

It is the policy of the East Sussex County Council that children immunised in early life should be given a booster injection at about five years of age and again at about 10. In the area under my supervision, the administration of this service was transferred from the District Councils to the County Health Department in November, 1958, and I am glad to report that there have been no difficulties resulting from this change of policy. During the year (May to

December) I attended many schools and clinics and carried out a total of 932 injections.

The Annual Return for the Rural District of Cuckfield, showing separate figures for children immunised during the last five years and for children immunised more than five years ago, is given below.

Age on 31.12.59 (i.e., born in year)	Under 1 1959	1-4 1955- 1958	5-9 1950- 1954	10-14 1945- 1949	Under 15 Total
(a) Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1955-1959	134	1,492	1,356	427	3,409
(b) Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1954 or earlier ..	—	—	338	567	905

In 1958 the immunisation index for children under five in England and Wales (i.e., the percentage of children in that age group who had ever completed a course of immunisation) was 54 per cent. The figure for East Sussex for the same age group, based on figures supplied in the County Medical Officer's Report, works out at 86 per cent. and the percentage of all children immunised before leaving school at 15 is 80.3.

In his Annual Report, the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health concluded the section on diphtheria with the following words: "Events in 1958 should act as a warning to those who feel that diphtheria is a thing of the past and that an increase in its incidence is improbable. It is quite clear that efforts to maintain a high level of immunisation of all children cannot be relaxed."

Having regard to the events in several London boroughs during this year, parents would be wise to take heed of this advice and ensure that their children receive booster injections at regular intervals.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Five hundred and twenty-one cases of infectious disease were notified. This is the highest figure since 1955, when 566 cases were recorded.

Measles: Measles, which often attains epidemic proportions in alternate years, ran true to form and was responsible for 450 notifications, as compared with a figure of 36 the previous year.

Scarlet Fever: Forty-three cases were notified compared with nine in 1958. A high proportion of these cases occurred during the spring and summer at a primary school in the southern half of the district. On visiting the school, it was discovered that all the cases had occurred in one form in children between five and six years of age. The classroom in which all the cases had occurred was small and poorly ventilated and, although scarlet fever is now a relatively benign infection, this incident presented an opportunity for obtaining an improvement in conditions. It was suggested to the School Managers that

comparatively inexpensive alterations would improve the ventilation in the classroom until more extensive work (then in the planning stage) had been carried out. I am glad to say that minor alterations, resulting in an improvement in ventilation, were carried out during the year.

Dysentery: Ten cases were notified during the year and, of these, four occurred in April in a residential nursery.

In two separate incidents, involving four of the remaining cases, it appeared that the infection had most probably been acquired outside the district. After a thorough investigation, each case was kept under observation until three consecutive negative stool specimens had been obtained.

The organism responsible for the infection in all the cases which were notified during the year was *Shigella Sonnei*.

FOOD POISONING

Six cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. Two of these cases occurred in one family during the Christmas holiday (1958) and were not notified until the New Year. An account of this incident was given in the Annual Report for 1958.

In none of the other cases, which were scattered throughout the district, was it possible to discover the original source of infection, although in two of them there was strong presumptive evidence that the infection had been acquired outside the district.

One of the remaining cases is worthy of comment because it illustrates the interest shown by the Bacteriologists of the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale in information which reaches them from Public Health Laboratories all over the country.

In September a family doctor, in the northern half of the district, notified a case of food poisoning due to *Salmonella typhimurium*. The patient, a woman of 65, had been admitted to Goddards Green Hospital, where she remained under treatment for a period of 12 days. The Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector visited the home soon after the notification had been received but was unable to obtain any definite clues as to the source of infection. A faecal specimen obtained from the husband was found to be negative. In the meantime, the *Salmonella* isolated from the patient had proved to be of an unusual type (*Salmonella typhimurium* la Var. 2) and this information was passed on from the Area Public Health Laboratory to Colindale.

At about the same time two similar incidents were reported from neighbouring districts and it was at this point the Central Public Health Laboratory became interested in the matter. It would appear that in August an outbreak of illness amongst calves on a farm in a nearby Rural District had been found to be due to an infection with *Salmonella* of the same type. Laboratory investigations showed that chickens on the farm were "carriers" of the disease and a week or two later a farm worker developed gastro-enteritis due to the same organism.

In late September, a Medical Officer from Colindale visited the districts concerned and made an intensive investigation, which involved visiting the homes of persons who had been affected, shops, markets, slaughterhouses, etc. Later he reported that he found no direct connection between the three incidents investigated and the isolation of *Salmonella typhimurium* la. Var. 2 from calves and poultry. In none of the three incidents had the persons affected consumed veal, calf products or poultry, nor had they had any contact with farm animals of any sort. There was nothing to suggest any association with bulk egg products.

OUTBREAK OF " WINTER VOMITING " IN SCHOOLCHILDREN

Early in December, a letter was received from a resident in a neighbouring Urban District expressing concern at the " alarming frequency " of attacks of sickness and diarrhoea in children resident in the town and surrounding districts. As no cases of dysentery or food poisoning had been notified in recent months, it seemed that the attacks of gastro-enteritis, described in the complainant's letter, might be due to a virus. An illness known as epidemic gastro-enteritis, sometimes referred to as " winter vomiting," is known in many parts of the world, and although it is probably viral in origin no specific virus has yet been isolated. The illness, though quite severe at the time, rarely lasts longer than 48 hours. It is not notifiable. These suspicions were later confirmed by telephone conversations with several family doctors, but none of them were of the opinion that there was more gastro-enteritis in the district than was usual at the time of the year.

A letter was then written to the complainant informing him of my views as to the probable cause of the illness and he was asked to let me know the name(s) of the school(s) attended by his children. In the meantime, a telephone call was received from a family doctor in the southern part of the Rural District. He said that he wished to draw my attention to the high incidence of gastro-enteritis (approximately 25 per cent.) in school children in his practice and he was able to give the names of several schools where he thought investigations might be made. Arrangements were made with him for faecal specimens to be obtained from any new cases in order that full laboratory investigations might be made to exclude a gastro-enteritis of bacterial origin, and my suspicions as to the viral origin of this outbreak were confirmed when none of the specimens, which were subsequently obtained from recently-affected persons, was found to be positive for either dysentery or food poisoning organisms. Following this telephone conversation, five primary schools and one Convent school were visited by the Senior Public Health Inspectors and myself and in only two schools (both in the Cuckfield Rural District) was the incidence of gastro-enteritis found to be unduly high. At the latter, certain precautions were suggested and a supply of disinfectant was left with the head teachers with instructions as to its use in washrooms and toilets. In all the schools visited deficiencies in toilet and washroom facilities were noted and later reported in writing to the Principal School Medical Officer. At the Convent, the Mother Superior appeared to be only too glad to accept our suggestions and requested that a letter be written to her listing the defects in order to assist her when she made formal representations to those responsible for the administration of the school.

Before the Christmas holiday, the family doctor, who had originally reported the matter, expressed the view that the incidence of diarrhoea and vomiting in school children, in the area of his practice, had been considerably less since our visit to the schools. Whether this apparent reduction in case rate was due to improved standards of hygiene in the schools following our visit or to a natural remission in the infectivity of the virus will, of course, never be known.

During this localised and very minor outbreak close liaison was maintained with the Public Health Laboratory Service at Brighton.

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER DISEASES

In May, the first Weekly Bulletin of Notifiable and other Diseases was prepared for circulation to family doctors in the three districts under my supervision. Under each notifiable disease the number of cases notified during the week in each district is given together with the total number recorded since

the beginning of the year. I have found the existence of this Bulletin a most useful means of passing on epidemiological information and, on occasions, various items of interest have been abstracted from a similar Bulletin circulated by the M.O.H. of the neighbouring County Borough.

It is hoped that this Bulletin may assist the family doctor in obtaining a rough assessment of the prevalence of infectious disease in his practice as compared with the district as a whole.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY

The Unit visited West Hoathly, Crawley Down and Turners Hill during May, 1959.

I am indebted to Dr. Rigden, the Director, for the following analysis of the figures resulting from the Survey.

	Crawley Down			Turners Hill			West Hoathly		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Number of persons X-rayed	27	58	85	73	94	167	82	90	172
Abnormal Films:									
Tuberculosis requiring close clinical supervision or hospital treatment..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis requiring occasional clinical supervision	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Malignant Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sarcoidosis	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cardio-Vascular Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

Out of a total of 424 persons presenting themselves for chest radiography, only two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered and only one of these required close clinical supervision or hospital treatment.

ANTHRAX ON A FARM NEAR WEST HOATHLY

In October the East Grinstead police informed us of suspected Anthrax in an animal on a farm near West Hoathly. On making enquiries it was discovered that the animal had died suddenly and had been sent by the farmer to a knackers yard near Crawley for post-mortem examination. Anthrax was later confirmed by the Veterinary Officer after laboratory tests had been carried out. On learning that Anthrax had been confirmed I telephoned the farmer and advised him to tell any employee who had been in contact with the animal to visit his family doctor at regular intervals for a period of one week so that antibiotic treatment could be started immediately if there were any suspicious signs or symptoms. Later, on discussing the matter with the family doctor responsible for the general medical care of the two employees involved, it was decided that both men should be given a prophylactic course of penicillin.

The Senior Public Health Inspector and I visited the farm the following day, where we found that disinfection was being efficiently carried out under the supervision of the police. It was fortunately unnecessary to take any further action in the interests of public health as milk was not produced at this farm. The Notice made under the Anthrax Order, 1938, was withdrawn within two days.

POLLUTED SPRING WATER AT "SHEPHERD AND DOG INN," FULKING

Some years ago the water from a spring feeding the ram near the "Shepherd and Dog Inn," at Fulking, was found to be unsatisfactory and this resulted in a mains supply of water being provided for the village. During the year it came to our notice that this spring was being used by the general public for drinking purposes. A sample taken for bacteriological examination revealed that the water was unfit for drinking and arrangements were made with the Surveyor's Department for a permanent notice to be erected warning the public of this fact.

FLY PREVENTION

During the year the Central Council for Health Education launched a special campaign against the house-fly and special pamphlets and posters were prepared. A supply of these posters was obtained and suitable sites for display were found in the three districts. The Editor of *The Mid-Sussex Times* provided valuable additional publicity by drawing the attention of the public to this nuisance and particular emphasis was placed on the part played by the house-fly in the spread of diseases such as dysentery and poliomyelitis.

In this district the importance of dustbin hygiene was not ignored and at the instigation of the Public Health Committee a pamphlet was prepared for the guidance of householders. Arrangements for distribution by voluntary agencies were made by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee.

FOOD HYGIENE

During the year 222 inspections of food premises were carried out by the Senior Public Health Inspector and his staff and further improvements were recorded. On the whole, the standards of hygiene throughout the district were found to be well maintained.

Towards the end of the year, the Senior Public Health Inspector and I began a detailed inspection of kitchen facilities and sanitary accommodation in local Education Authority schools in the district. A short report on our findings will appear in the Annual Report for 1960.

HOUSING

At the beginning of the Five-year Slum Clearance Programme, which terminates during 1960, there were 293 dwellings to be dealt with. On the 31st December, 1959, the position was as follows:

Thirty-four dwellings remained to be dealt with and of these 14 were the subject of informal negotiations with the owners. The majority of the remaining 20 were occupied by old people whom we would not wish to disturb unnecessarily. Of the 92 houses made fit by the owners, 36 were the subject of Improvement Grants.

The Council's continued use of the powers granted to them under the Act with regard to Improvement Grants is a policy of major importance which is proving of great benefit to the District as a whole.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

Section 47: This Section provides for the compulsory removal from their homes of elderly, infirm or incapacitated persons who are not receiving proper care and attention. Such persons are often living on their own under poor and insanitary conditions, and although it was not necessary to take formal action under this Section several cases were investigated during the year.

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS

There is only one public swimming pool in the area under my supervision. This open-air pool is situated in the southern half of the District. Mains water is used for filling at the beginning of the season and is treated at the pool by pressure filters, aeration and chlorination. All samples taken for bacteriological examination were satisfactory.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

During the year medical examinations were carried out for the following authorities:

Cuckfield Rural District	10
Cuckfield Urban District	10
Burgess Hill Urban District	9
Mid-Sussex Joint Water Board	1

I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Jones, Senior Public Health Inspector, for his help and co-operation in the work of the department and for the particulars which he has supplied for this report. I also wish to record my appreciation to other members of the staff for their loyal support during the year, particularly Miss Everson, my Secretary.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Council for their support and also the Officers and staff in other departments for their help during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. M. RICHARDSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	D. M. RICHARDSON, M.R.C.S. ENG., L.R.C.P. LOND., D.P.H. ENG.
<i>(Also Medical Officer of Health to Cuckfield Urban and Burgess Hill Urban Districts and School Medical Officer to East Sussex County Council)</i>	
<i>Senior Public Health Inspector</i>	F. G. JONES, M.B.E., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i>
<i>Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector</i>	R. S. RELF, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods</i> <i>Qualified Housing Manager</i> <i>Qualified Building Inspector</i>
<i>District Public Health Inspector</i>	W. J. PENNINGTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i> <i>Qualified Smoke Inspector</i>
<i>Secretary to the M.O.H.</i>	Miss G. L. EVERSON
<i>Clerk to the M.O.H.</i>	Miss B. P. RACKHAM
<i>Clerks to the S.P.H.I.</i>	Miss I. ROBBINS Miss D. T. J. NEAL (appointed 31.8.59)

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Summary of Statistics for the years:

	1957	1958	1959
Area of the District in Acres	68,011	68,011	68,011
Population estimated to middle of year ..	27,270	27,880	28,750
Rateable Value	£327,565 (at 1.4.57)	£326,201 (at 1.4.58)	£346,665 (at 1.4.59)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ..	£1,270	£1,300	£1,370
Density of Population (persons per acre) ..	0.40	0.41	0.42
Number of Houses	9,148	9,441	9,604
Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 population	13.5	15.46	15.51
Infant Mortality Rate	17.91	17.86	19.18
Death Rate (Corrected)	8.73	9.75	9.09

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	207	191	398
Illegitimate	13	6	19
Total Live Births	220	197	417
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude) ..	14.50		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (corrected) ..	15.51		

Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births 4.56

Still Births

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	—	4	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total Still Births	—	4	4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still births) 9.50

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total Live and Still Births	220	201	421

Infant Deaths

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	1	1
Total	4	4	8

Infant Mortality Rates:

- (a) All infants per 1,000 live births 19.18
- (b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births .. 17.59
- (c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births .. 52.63

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age					Male		Female		Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	4
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	..	—	..	—
					—		—		—
Total	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	4
					—		—		—

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births 9.59

Death of Infants under 1 week of age					Male		Female		Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	4
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	..	—	..	—
					—		—		—
Total	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	4
					—		—		—

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births 9.59

Perinatal Mortality					Male		Female		Total
Still Births and Deaths under 1 week	..			..	3	..	5	..	8
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births—									
(a) Cuckfield Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.00
(b) Mid-Sussex Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23.7

Maternal Mortality

Maternal Deaths (including abortion).. .. Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. 0.00

Deaths					Male		Female		Total
All Causes	..	..	..	..	147	..	172	..	319
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude)					..	..	..	..	11.09
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (corrected)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.09

CAUSE OF DEATH IN INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

Cause					Age				
1.	Bronchopneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 months
2.	Convulsions (Epilepsy)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 days
3.	Bronchopneumonia (Congenital heart/conjoined twins)	..			..			..	2 months
4.	Bronchopneumonia (Congenital heart/conjoined twins)	..			..			..	2 months
5.	Meningitis (Meningocele)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 month
6.	Coarctation of aorta, intraventricular septal defect (Jejunal atresia)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 days
7.	Atelectasis (Asphyxia Neonatorum)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 day
8.	Prematurity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 day

CAUSES OF DEATH IN CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	1	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	1	—
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infection	..	..	..	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	—	—
8.	Measles	..	..	..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	1	4
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	12	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast..	..	..	..	—	9
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	—	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm..	..	..	..	16	13
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	1	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system..	..	..	..	16	33
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	36	23
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	1	6
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	20	33
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	6	3
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	7	6
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	6	3
25.	Other disease of the respiratory system	..	..	..	2	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	2	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	—	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	2	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	2	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	5	15
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	4	—
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	1	5
35.	Suicide..	..	..	..	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	—	—
Totals					147	172

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

	1958	1959
(i) Diseases of the heart and circulatory system	149 (43.8%)	128 (40.1%)
(Coronary disease)	58 (17.1%)	59 (18.5%)
(ii) Cancer (all sites)	64 (18.8%)	58 (18.2%)
(Cancer of lung and bronchus).. ..	15 (4.4%)	13 (4.07%)
(iii) Vascular lesions of the nervous system..	45 (13.2%)	49 (15.3%)
(iv) Respiratory diseases (including tuber- culosis)	29 (8.5%)	29 (9.09%)
(Respiratory tuberculosis)	Nil	2 (0.6%)

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

All milk and water samples, infectious disease and food poisoning specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton. Medical practitioners send the specimens direct to the Laboratory and they receive the report by telephone. A Copy of the report is also sent to this office.

I would like to express my thanks to Dr. J. E. Jameson, Medical Director, for his informative reports and helpful advice on many occasions.

Ambulance Facilities

Cases of infectious disease are now removed by one of the British Red Cross Society's ambulances stationed at Haywards Heath Ambulance Station, Bridge Road, Haywards Heath.

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases

Twenty-six beds are available at the Goddards Green Hospital for the treatment of cases of infectious disease, twelve of these beds are in a cubicle block and the other fourteen in a block consisting of two main wards and side wards.

A table on page 22 gives particulars of admissions during the year.

Smallpox

The South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board state that cases of smallpox occurring in this district should be sent to the River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Infant Welfare Centres:

Albourne	..	..	Village Hall	3rd Thursday
<i>(Weighing Centre only)</i>				
Ardingly	..	..	Hapstead Hall	1st and 3rd Thursday
				Dr. on 3rd Thursday
Balcombe	..	..	Parish Room	3rd Wednesday
				Dr. on 3rd Wednesday
Bolney	..	..	Rawson Institute	4th Tuesday
				Dr. each session
Copthorne	..	..	Village Hall	3rd Tuesday
				Dr. each session
Crawley Down	..	..	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Tuesday
				Dr. on 2nd Tuesday
Horsted Keynes	..	..	Parish Hall	3rd Friday
				Dr. each session
Hurstpierpoint	..	..	Parish Hall	1st Monday and 3rd Tuesday
				day
				Dr. 3rd Tuesday
Keymer	..	..	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Tuesday
				Dr. on 1st Tuesday
Slaugham	..	..	Village Hall, Handcross	3rd Monday
				Dr. each session
West Hoathly	..	..	Village Hall	1st Tuesday
				Dr. on 1st Tuesday
Cuckfield	..	..	Congregational Church	2nd Friday
			Hall	Dr. on 2nd Friday
Lindfield	..	..	The Tiger	1st and 3rd Tuesday
				Dr. on 1st Tuesday

Clinics:

Chest	.. ..	Haywards Heath Hospital Cuckfield Hospital	Every Thursday 9.30 a.m. (by appointment) Thursday 2 p.m. Diagnostic
Orthopaedic	.. ..	B.R.C.S. (H.Q.), Paddockhall Road, Haywards Heath	Tuesday 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m. Wednesday 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m. Friday 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m., 2-4.30 p.m. Dr. attends 2nd Thursday 2-4.30 p.m.
Speech Therapy	.. ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill	Wednesday 9 a.m. Friday 9 a.m. (by appointment) Wednesday 9 a.m. (by appointment)
Child Guidance	.. ..	East Grinstead: Moat Road Lewes: Castlegate House Hove: 33 Clarendon Villas Burgess Hill: E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road	Every Friday 10 a.m. (by appointment) Every Wednesday 10 a.m. (by appointment) Tuesday 10 a.m. Thursday 10 a.m. (by appointment) Every Monday 10 a.m. (by appointment)
Eye Refractions (School Children)	.. ..	Haywards Heath Hospital Sussex Street Clinic, Brighton	By appointment By appointment
Dental	.. ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	By appointment
School Clinic	.. ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	Dr. Waugh (by appointment)
*Family Planning	.. ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	2nd and 4th Wednesday 2 p.m. Dr. each session (by appointment)
*Sub-Fertility	.. ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	1st Wednesday 2.15 p.m. Dr. each session (by appointment)
Venereal Diseases	.. ..	Facilities available at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton	
	Men	.. .. Monday .. 4.30 p.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday .. 9.30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday .. 1.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.	
	Women and Children	.. .. Tuesday .. 1.30 p.m.-4.30 p.m. Thursday .. 10.0 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday .. 9.30 a.m.-11.30 a.m.	
		New cases must attend at least one hour before the Clinic closes	

* These Clinics are provided by the Family Planning Association

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN PARISHES

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Totals
Albourne	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	8
Ardingly	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	9
Balcombe	3	-	-	-	-	-	34	-	37
Bolney	-	1	-	-	-	-	14	-	15
Clayton	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Cuckfield Rural ..	3	3	2	-	-	-	40	-	48
Fulking	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5
Horsted Keynes ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	15
Hurstpierpoint ..	20	-	-	-	-	-	89	-	109
Keymer	4	4	-	1	-	-	36	1	46
Lindfield Rural ..	1	-	1	-	1	1	45	-	49
Newtimber	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Poynings	-	-	-	-	1	-	11	-	12
Pyecombe	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	6
Slaugham	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	16
Twineham	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
West Hoathly ..	2	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	16
Worth	10	2	3	-	2	-	104	5	126
Totals	43	10	6	1	4	1	450	6	521

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE	Total cases notified	Under 1 year								15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
		1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14								
Scarlet Fever ..	43	-	-	3	6	28	2	1	3	-	-	-	15	-	
Dysentery ..	10	4	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	6	-	
Food Poisoning ..	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	1	-	1	-	
Pneumonia ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	
Erysipelas ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Measles ..	450	34	29	40	48	225	54	5	7	-	-	-	4	-	
Whooping Cough ..	6	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Totals ..	521	10	33	43	54	255	58	7	15	5	2	26	1		

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1959

Age Groups		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 - 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5 - 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 - 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25 - 35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35 - 45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45 - 55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55 - 65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	6	1	1	-	1	1	-	-

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS, 1938-59

Year	New Cases						Deaths						Number on Register at end of Year					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1938	11	11	22	6	4	10	4	1	5	1	1	2	21	33	54	18	12	30
1939	4	4	8	1	5	6	2	1	3	-	-	-	17	33	50	15	15	30
1940	9	14	23	3	6	9	4	6	10	1	-	1	22	36	58	15	19	34
1941	19	9	28	6	2	8	3	3	6	3	1	4	33	39	72	19	19	38
1942	10	7	17	2	6	8	3	2	5	3	3	6	42	45	87	21	24	45
1943	15	8	23	2	5	7	10	4	14	3	1	4	46	44	90	21	25	46
1944	9	5	14	2	4	6	7	2	9	-	-	-	50	48	98	23	29	52
1945	16	15	31	3	3	6	6	5	11	-	1	1	55	47	102	22	27	49
1946	9	3	12	2	8	10	3	1	4	2	1	3	58	47	105	23	35	58
1947	13	11	24	3	2	5	4	4	8	1	-	1	62	51	113	25	35	60
1948	12	9	21	2	2	4	7	5	12	-	1	1	59	51	110	27	34	61
1949	23	8	31	5	3	8	6	-	6	1	-	1	73	56	129	30	36	66
1950	13	11	24	3	3	6	1	-	1	1	-	1	81	58	139	30	33	63
1951	17	12	29	1	3	4	2	1	3	1	-	1	85	66	151	27	36	63
1952	8	15	23	2	6	8	1	2	3	-	1	1	87	78	165	29	40	69
1953	9	2	11	9	-	9	1	1	1	-	-	-	78	69	147	25	37	62
1954	4	1	5	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	70	58	128	14	18	32
1955	7	6	13	-	3	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	71	58	129	13	20	33
1956	11	6	17	1	3	4	-	2	2	-	-	-	80	61	141	10	23	33
1957	5	2	7	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	79	59	138	9	13	22
1958	8	5	13	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	71	165	10	12	22
1959	6	1	7	1	-	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	96	70	166	11	13	24

CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

Death Rate from Tuberculosis for past twelve years

Year	Tuberculosis Death Rate
1948	0.46
1949	0.24
1950	0.07
1951	0.14
1952	0.14
1953	0.04
1954	Nil
1955	0.08
1956	0.07
1957	0.04
1958	Nil
1959	0.07

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1945-1959

Year	Esti- mated Popula- tion	Number of Births					Number of Deaths				Infants' Deaths			Infant Death Rate	Natural Increase of Births over Deaths	
		Legitimate			Illegitimate		Birth Rate	M	F	Total	Death Rate	M	F			Total
		M	F	Total	M	F										
1945	25,600	181	177	358	19	22	41	155	177	332	8	5	13	32.58	67	
1946	26,610	188	218	406	20	19	39	168	167	335	11	6	17	38.20	110	
1947	27,180	259	225	484	12	11	23	173	202	375	3	8	11	21.70	132	
1948	28,400	226	196	422	12	14	26	187	178	365	13	4	17	40.28	83	
1949	28,850	207	198	405	10	9	19	172	199	371	4	6	10	23.58	53	
1950	29,390	202	189	391	13	9	22	193	183	376	10	3	13	31.47	37	
1951	29,280	165	147	312	5	7	12	171	196	367	6	6	12	37.04	43	
1952	29,350	190	195	385	5	12	17	171	176	347	6	3	9	22.39	55	
1953	25,020	178	150	328	10	4	14	136	190	326	4	5	9	26.32	16	
1954	25,420	182	151	333	7	9	16	150	158	308	-	3	3	8.60	41	
1955	25,920	163	145	308	4	7	11	148	160	308	4	3	7	21.94	11	
1956	26,490	173	150	323	5	3	8	146	167	313	4	3	7	21.14	18	
1957	27,270	159	166	325	6	4	10	148	150	298	-	6	6	17.91	37	
1958	27,880	173	202	375	14	3	17	159	181	340	4	3	7	17.85	52	
1959	28,750	207	191	398	13	6	19	147	172	319	4	4	8	19.18	98	

GODDARDS GREEN HOSPITAL

I am indebted to the Matron, Miss J. M. Reid, for the following particulars of cases admitted during the year:

Disease	Cuckfield Rural District	Cuckfield Urban District	Burgess Hill Urban District	East Grinstead Urban District	Uckfield Rural District	Other Districts	Total
Dysentery	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Observation Dysentery ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Observation Diarrhoea ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Food Poisoning	1	2	—	—	—	1	4
Infective Jaundice	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Intestinal Infection	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Scarlet Fever	14	1	2	2	—	3	22
Scarlet Fever and Mumps ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	2	1	2	2	1	—	8
Measles and Pneumonia ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	3
Measles and Influenza ..	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Mumps	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Chickenpox	2	—	—	1	—	3	6
Rubella	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tonsillitis	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Influenza and Pneumonia ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cardiac Failure	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis	2	3	1	—	—	7	13
Total ..	35	9	12	5	1	16	78

The Cubicle Block allowed seventeen different diseases, observation cases or diseases with complications to be dealt with.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Mr. F. G. Jones, Senior Public Health Inspector, has furnished the following report on the sanitary supervision of the District:—

WATER SUPPLY

(a) Public Supplies

The district is extremely well supplied with piped water from the public mains and private sources. Out of a total of 9,821 houses and shops, an increase of 380 over 1958, 9,741 have a piped supply into the premises; this gives a

percentage of approximately 99. A further 10 houses have a main supply from standpipes.

The following table shows the position with regard to the number of houses and shops with a piped supply, in each parish:

Parish	No. of Houses including Shops	Houses with piped Supply		Standpipes	
		No.	Population	No.	Population
Albourne	164	162	469	—	—
Ardingly	400	400	1,160	—	—
Balcombe	507	503	1,458	—	—
Bolney	358	352	1,020	—	—
Clayton	498	498	1,444	—	—
Cuckfield Rural ..	615	613	1,777	—	—
Fulking	101	83	240	3	9
Horsted Keynes ..	414	403	1,168	—	—
Hurstpierpoint ..	1,679	1,671	4,845	—	—
Keymer	1,504	1,504	4,361	—	—
Lindfield Rural ..	454	454	1,316	—	—
Newtimber	44	44	127	—	—
Poynings	105	105	304	7	19
Pyecombe	89	89	258	—	—
Slaugham	675	671	1,945	—	—
Twineham	97	97	281	—	—
West Hoathly	503	503	1,487	—	—
Worth	1,614	1,589	4,608	—	—
Totals	9,821	9,741	28,268	10	28

During the year samples were taken from each of the public supplies for chemical and bacteriological analysis.

Supply	Bacteriological	Chemical
Brighton Corporation	2	1
Mid-Sussex Joint Water Board	2	2
Newhaven, Seaford and Ouse Valley Water Company	7	4
Worth and West Hoathly (Weir Wood) ..	3	1
Worth and West Hoathly (East Surrey) ..	2	1

(i) All public supplies are sampled monthly for bacteriological examination and all were reported on as being satisfactory.

(ii) The Boards or Companies responsible for the piped supply carry out monthly bacteriological examination on the raw water. All waters are chlorinated after filtration. Samples of all public supplies were taken for chemical analysis and all were satisfactory.

(iii) None of the supplies is liable to plumbo-solvent action.

(iv) There was no evidence that any of the supplies were contaminated,

(b) Private Supplies

During the year 51 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and eight samples for chemical analysis.

The samples taken refer to the supplies serving 81 dwellings and two dairy farms.

In all, 15 dwellings and one dairy farm were found to have unfit or doubtful supplies in addition to the two dwellings and one dairy farm outstanding from the previous year.

The position with regard to the unfit supplies is as follows:

No. of dwellings—connected to a new private supply	1
„ —work in hand for connection to main	5
„ —connected to main	2
„ —storage tank cleansed and water fit upon analysis ..	5
„ —work in hand	3
No. of dairy farms—work in progress but not completed	1
No. of dwellings— with unfit supplies at end of year	1
General—No. of dwellings connected to the main and private supply discontinued	13

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Total numbers of inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts, including Improvement Grants and Certificates of Disrepair ..	2,036
Infectious disease —No. of visits	44
Factories — „ inspections	99
Water Supplies — „ visits	121
Rats and Mice — „ visits	2,013
Drainage — „ visits	405
Moveable Dwellings — „ inspections	37
Shops Act — „ inspections	15
Flies and Vermin — „ visits	175
Inns — „ inspections	21
Swimming Pools — „ visits	18
Butchers' Shops and Slaughterhouses — „ visits	147
Food Shops and Catering Establishments— „ visits	222
Watercress Beds — „ visits	15
Bakehouses — „ visits	16
Piggeries — „ visits	24
Milk Supply — „ visits	73
Total	5,481

MILK SUPPLY

Twenty-four purveyors retail milk in the area (including outside retail purveyors).

All the schools are supplied with Pasteurised milk.

The tendency has continued for the retailers to purchase milk in bottles, thus obviating the necessity of bottle-washing on their premises.

Two samples of bottles (each a batch of three) were taken from retail purveyors during the year to check whether or not, in the case of unsatisfactory milk samples, the bottles were at fault. These samples proved to be satisfactory.

During the year the following milk sampling was carried out:

(1) Tuberculin Tested Milk

No. of samples taken	30
„ found to be unsatisfactory ..	3

(2) Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk				
No. of samples taken	..	..	..	51
„ found to be unsatisfactory	..	..	..	nil
(3) Pasteurised Milk				
No. of samples taken	..	..	..	36
„ found to be unsatisfactory	..	..	..	nil

School Milks

The supplies to schools were sampled at the retailers and in all cases were satisfactory.

Biological Sampling

All milk retailed in the district (with the exception of heat-treated milk) was examined for the presence of tuberculosis. Twenty-five samples were taken and all were satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designation) Order

Licences granted by the Cuckfield Rural District Council:

Retailers

Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised (Supplementary)	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	11
„ (Supplementary)	..	..	..	..	8
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	10
„ (Supplementary)	..	..	..	..	8
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	3
„ (Supplementary)	..	..	..	..	4

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the area, and during the year all animals slaughtered were inspected in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Ministry.

All diseased, unsound and unwholesome meat is dyed and disposed of to a reputable firm for conversion into inedible fats and fertilisers.

In all, 147 visits were made to slaughterhouses and butchers' shops and the following is a record of the diseased or unsound food condemned:

(a) Affected with Tuberculosis

Pigs

7 Heads and Tongues 70lbs.

Total weight condemned (tuberculosis) 70lbs. as compared with 52lbs. in 1958.

(b) Other Diseases and Unsound Conditions

Bovines

9 livers or part liver (Cirrhosis) 63lbs.

1 part liver (Cysts) 7lbs.

4 livers or part liver (Abscess) 39lbs.

109lbs.

Pigs

6 livers (Necrosis) 19lbs.

10 livers (Cirrhosis) 47lbs.

2 lungs (Pneumonia) 7lbs.

1 head (Abscess) 10lbs.

2 heads (Pericarditis) 2lbs.

85lbs.

Sheep

12 livers or part liver (Fluke) 43lbs.

Total weight condemned (other than tuberculosis), 237lbs., as compared with 204lbs. in 1958.

The following table gives a summary of the carcasses inspected and the percentage of those affected with disease:

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	50	—	53	239	162	—
Number inspected . .	50	—	53	239	162	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	—	—	12	21	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	28	—	—	5.02	13	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	7	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	4.4	—
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD INSPECTION

During the year the following other foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:

Imported Meat	..	..	..	..	33lbs.
Canned Meats ..	..	..	..	..	13lbs.
Canned Vegetables	..	..	..	..	6½lbs.
Canned Fruit ..	..	..	..	..	11¼lbs.
Canned Cream	..	..	..	..	4ozs.
Canned Milk Pudding	..	..	..	..	7¾ozs.
Evaporated Milk	..	..	..	..	10¾ pints (equiv.)

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, AND FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955-56

The number and classification of food shops in the area is as follows:

No. of Grocers and General stores	..	..	..	..	69
„ Greengrocers' shops	..	..	..	..	9
„ Wet Fish shops	..	..	..	..	2
„ Fried Fish shops	..	..	..	..	2
„ Butchers' shops	..	..	..	..	15
„ Confectionery and Sweet shops	..	..	..	..	24
„ Catering establishments	..	..	..	47	} 76
„ Private and State Schools—Catering	..	..	..	29	
					197

During the year 222 visits were made to the above premises.

No. of Food Premises Registered under Section 16

No. of premises used for the sale of ice-cream	..	..	..	92
„ rooms used for the preparation of sausages	..	..	..	6
„ rooms used for the preparation of meat by cooking	..	..	..	2

Again it is pleasing to report that generally the standard of hygiene at these shops is most satisfactory, credit for which goes equally to management and staff. In general, all premises are well maintained.

CULTIVATION AND SALE OF WATERCRESS

In all, 39 samples of watercress were taken and all proved to be satisfactory.

HOUSING

Action was taken during the year under the Housing Act, 1957, as follows:

No. of houses—undertakings accepted	..	..	..	..	6
„ —rendered fit informally	..	..	..	..	142

Rent Act, 1957

Part I

No. of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	3
„ decisions not to issue certificates	nil
„ decisions to issue certificates	3
„ „ (a) in respect of some but not all defects	3
„ „ (b) in respect of all defects	nil
„ undertakings given by landlords	1
„ undertakings refused by Local Authority	nil
„ certificates issued	2

Part II

No. of applications by Landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	3
„ objection by tenants to cancellation of certificates	nil
„ decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	nil
„ certificates cancelled by Local Authority	11

Drainage and Closet Accommodation

No. of properties connected to sewer	39
„ „ redrained or improved	96
„ „ —septic tank and filter installed	42
„ „ —disposal plants improved	10
„ „ —cesspools constructed	1
„ „ —drainage systems unblocked	3
„ „ —conversions from earth or chemical closets to water closets	46
„ „ —new closet structures built or converted	7
„ „ —septic tanks constructed	1
„ „ —water closet pans renewed	1

Improvement Grants—Private Properties

The first application was approved in April, 1951, and since that date applications have been received in respect of 508 dwellings. This has entailed 5,689 inspection visits prior to reporting, while the work was in progress and after completion. The 508 dwellings were dealt with as follows :—

No. of dwellings —applications approved	460
„ —applications disapproved	12
„ —applications withdrawn before consideration by Committee	30
„ —applications awaiting consideration	6
	<hr/>
	508
	<hr/>

The total amount of grants approved as at 31st December, 1959, was £117,849, and the amount paid out to owners on completion or by instalments as the work proceeded was £89,367. The annual totals since 1951 are as follows :—

YEAR		<i>Grants approved</i>		<i>Grants paid</i>
		£		£
1951	..	444	..	444
1952	..	—	..	—
1953	..	1,468	..	1,468
1954	..	5,804	..	5,472
1955	..	24,416	..	19,723
1956	..	17,304	..	12,267
1957	..	17,081	..	12,373
1958	..	17,430	..	18,282
1959	..	33,902	..	19,338
		<hr/> £117,849		<hr/> £89,367

In 8 instances, following completion of works, the dwellings were sold and the appropriate portion of the grant repaid.

Tenancies

The tenancies of the 460 dwellings approved for grant aid are as follows :—

No. of dwellings—owner-occupied	..	..	..	168 (36.5 %)
.. —agricultural tenancies	..	..	..	176 (38.2 %)
.. —weekly tenancies	..	..	..	116 (25.3 %)

General

Of the 460 dwellings approved many were in need of repair under the Housing Acts ; in fact 56 were placed in category ' 5 ' of the Housing Survey as incapable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost. A further 140 were placed in category ' 3 ' as being in need of repair but capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost. These dwellings have been brought back into use as modernised dwellings, free from defects.

It will be noted that over 38 % of the grants approved were for the modernisation of agricultural cottages. Over the country as a whole the vast majority of dwellings improved are owner-occupied, whereas in this area practically two-thirds are tenanted properties.

Standard Grants

No. of applications approved	16
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Slum Clearance Programme

I submit the following report on the position as at the 31st December, 1959, on the Council's Five-year Slum Clearance Programme which terminates during 1960.

The number of dwellings included in the Council's clearance programme submitted to the Ministry was 277. This number has since been increased to 293.

The following is an analysis of the present position :—

(1) Statutory action—Houses dealt with under Housing Act, 1936, Section 11 and Housing Act, 1957, Section 16

(a) No. of dwellings—Undertakings not to be used for human habitation	71
(b) „ „ —subject to Demolition Orders	13
	<hr/>
	84
	<hr/>

The position with regard to the above 84 dwellings is as follows :—

(a) Dwellings subject to Undertakings

No. of dwellings still occupied	21
„ „ made fit with help of Improvement Grant	15
„ „ made fit	9
„ „ works in progress	8
„ „ demolished	10
„ „ used for other than human habitation	1
„ „ untenanted	7

(b) Dwellings subject to Demolition Orders

No. of dwellings still occupied	4
„ „ untenanted	1
„ „ demolished	8
	<hr/>
	84
	<hr/>

(2) Houses dealt with informally

No. of dwellings demolished in lieu of formal action	12
„ „ made fit by owners	92
„ „ taken out of programme—works carried out bringing dwellings out of this category	61
„ „ closed and used for other purposes	10
	<hr/>
	175
	<hr/>

Total number of houses dealt with formally or informally .. 259

It will be seen that a further 34 dwellings remain to be dealt with to complete the programme, but of this number 14 are subject to informal negotiations with owners and the majority of the remaining 20 are occupied by old people.

Of the 92 houses made fit by the owners, Improvement Grants were approved in 36 instances.

Position as to re-housing (Houses subject to formal action under Housing Acts)

(a) No. of families re-housed by Council	47
(b) No. of families awaiting rehousing from condemned properties	21

With regard to the 47 properties (tenant re-housed by Council) the position is as follows :—

No. of properties empty	8
.. made fit by Improvement Grant	15
.. made fit by owners	13
.. works in hand (Improvement Grants) ..	2
.. demolished	9
	—
	47
	—

It will be seen that out of the 259 properties dealt with, the need for re-housing has been to a very large extent obviated.

The present position with regard to the 34 dwellings to be dealt with to complete the programme is as follows :—

Parish or Locality	No. of houses to be dealt with	No. where action complete	Families re-housed by Council	No. outstanding	
				Informal talks with owners	No action taken
Albourne	6	4	—	2	—
Ardingly	10	10	3	—	—
Balcombe	21	21	2	—	—
Bolney	8	5	—	1	2
Clayton	4	4	3	—	—
Cuckfield Rural					
Staplefield	6	3	—	—	3
Anstye	8	7	1	—	1
Outlying	2	2	—	—	—
Fulking	7	6	—	—	1
Horsted Keynes ..	9	8	1	—	1
Hurstpierpoint ..	51	44	8	5	2
Keymer	28	28	4	—	—
Lindfield Rural ..	16	16	2	—	—
Poynings	16	10	1	5	1
Pyecombe	6	6	3	—	—
Slaugham					
Handcross	18	17	7	—	1
Warninglid	9	9	5	—	—
Twineham	10	7	1	—	3
West Hoathly	21	20	2	—	1
Worth					
Crawley Down ..	15	12	1	1	2
Copthorne	8	7	2	—	1
Turners Hill	5	5	1	—	—
Worth	9	8	—	—	1
Totals	293	259	47	14	20

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

Sanitary Conveniences on Farms

It is difficult to give the actual number of holdings to be surveyed under the above Act, but from a list supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1956, it would appear that the number will be in the region of 500.

During the year inspections have been carried out and the following information obtained :—

No. of agricultural holdings visited	..	..	..	..	65
„	employing casual seasonal labour				6
„	—no employees	..	..	..	3

Casual Labour

Where employed at the above, temporary sanitary accommodation in the fields is provided.

General

In arriving at the adequacy or otherwise of sanitary accommodation, regard was given to the situation of the employees' cottages in relation to the farms and it was found that 23 holdings were adequately served.

At 30 holdings accommodation was provided at the farms. In the remaining 12 holdings no sanitary accommodation was provided but it should be pointed out that 6 of these holdings were worked by mobile labour from a central depot.

Six informal notices were served to provide sanitary accommodation.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956. Clause 3 (2)

No. of premises approved under the above Act	1
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MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

In connection with the above, 37 visits were made and with very few exceptions all dwellings are of the trailer type, in a sound structural condition.

During the year 8 site licences were renewed.

INFESTATION

A total of 175 visits was made, as a result of which the following works were carried out :—

No. of houses treated for vermin	..	..	..	10
No. of houses treated for fly infestation	..	..	..	35

SURVEY OF SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AT STAPLEFIELD (Cuckfield Rural Parish)

The area covered by the survey extends from the road to Upper Common on the East, Upper Common to cottages above the "Jolly Tanner" and dwellings on the common and the main road to junction with road to Upper Common.

The conditions prevailing were as follows :—

No. of detached houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
„ semi-detached houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
„ terraced houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
„ flats	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
„ combined shop and dwelling	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ Inns	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
„ other buildings (School, Village Hall and Church)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Total							69

Population

Adults	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	176
Children	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Total								205

Drainage

No. of Properties drained to cesspool (no overflow)	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
„ —soil and sink waste drained to cesspool with overflow	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
„ —sink only drained to cesspool with overflow	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
„ —drained to septic tank and filter	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
„ with joint cesspool drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Total number of cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	..	33

Closet Accommodation

No. of properties with water closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
„ pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
„ chemical closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

Sinks

All properties were provided with sinks.

Baths and Lavatory Basins

No. of properties provided with bath and lavatory basin	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
„ bath only	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

Water Supply

With one exception all properties are supplied with main water laid on into the house, the exception being a large house which alternates between main and a treated private supply.

General

The standard of amenity as regards sanitary conveniences, baths, water supply and sinks was above the average. It will be seen that approximately 69% had water closets, all with flushing apparatus ; 62% had baths and all dwellings had sinks and a satisfactory water supply.

The arrangement for the disposal of drainage was chiefly to cesspools of which there was a total of 33, taking the drainage from 54 properties. At the time of inspection, no doubt due to the very dry weather, very few nuisances were apparent. From complaints received and investigated over the years this is not a true picture.

A cesspool and pail closet emptying service is in operation in the area. The disposal unit dealing with the drainage from the Council Estate "Tanners Mead" has given rise to a nuisance from smells but this has been virtually abated by an aerosol treatment plant.

The average number of persons occupying each house was 3.1.

SURVEY OF SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE VILLAGE OF WORTH

The area covered by the survey is Church Road, extending from the termination of the existing sewer in the North to "Fieldgate" and "Monte Solaro" in the South, and the whole of Green Lane within the Rural District.

Conditions prevailing were as follows :—

No. of detached houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
„ semi-detached houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
							—
					Total	..	35
							—

Population

Adults	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84
Children	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
								—
					Total	..	98	—

Drainage

No. of properties drained to cesspool (no overflow)	..	..	2
„ —soil and sink waste drained to cesspool with overflow	..	..	32
„ —sink only drained to cesspool with overflow			nil
„ drained to septic tank and filter	..	..	1
„ with joint cesspool drainage	..	..	6
Total No. of cesspools	..	..	31

Closet accommodation

No. of properties with water closets	35
--------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

Sinks

All properties were provided with sinks.

Baths and Lavatory Basins

No. of properties provided with bath and lavatory basin	..	26
.. bath only	.. ..	5

Water Supply

All properties have a mains supply laid on into the house.

General

The standard of amenity as regards sanitary conveniences, baths, water supply and sinks was very high. It will be seen that all dwellings have water closets with flushing apparatus. Eighty-eight per cent. have baths, all dwellings have sinks and a satisfactory water supply.

With one exception (to a septic tank and filter) all properties are drained to cesspools and apart from three cesspools which take six properties, each dwelling has its own cesspool. No doubt due to the very dry weather, very few nuisances were apparent. From complaints received and investigated over the years, this is not a true picture, although whilst making the survey two areas of the roadside ditch adjoining the following properties "Koorah," "Dixie" and "Cherry Cottage" south of the railway bridge and "Netherleigh" and "Durley" north of the bridge, contained water.

The Council's cesspool emptying service operates in this area, which is fairly compact with a large number of cesspools and conditions will be greatly improved by the proposed sewer.

The average number of persons occupying each house was 2.8.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

In all, 44 visits were made and 15 rooms were disinfected.

BATHING POOLS

There is one pool open to the general public in the area and four sited at schools ; in addition bathing takes place in two large ponds and one river. Twelve samples were taken for bacteriological examination, 2 of which were unsatisfactory. Upon investigation and resampling, all repeat samples were satisfactory.

FACTORIES

During the year 99 visits were made and no statutory action was found to be necessary.

Factories Act, 1937. Certificate as to Means of Escape in Case of Fire

No. of certificates issued	2
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1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises	Number of			
	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	30	35	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	80	64	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	110	99	1	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Defective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	2	2	—	2	2

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel— Making, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sections 15-44 nil

RODENT CONTROL

The cost of " Warfarin " is higher than the other types of bait but the advantage of reducing the number of visits outweighs this when it is realised that a high proportion of the time is spent in travelling.

In accordance with a resolution of the Council, private dwellings are treated free of charge, whilst business premises are treated at a charge to cover treatment. The cost of treating Council properties is kept separate.

Statistics in respect of this work are as follows :—

Private Dwellings

No. of dwellings surveyed or visited	226
„ „ where treatment was carried out	208
„ visits	1,295

Business Premises

No. of food shops surveyed or visited	3
„ „ where treatment was carried out	2
„ catering establishments (including hotels and schools) surveyed or visited	17
„ catering establishments where treatment was carried out	14
„ other premises surveyed or visited	17
„ „ where treatment was carried out	8
„ farms surveyed	104
„ farms where infestation found—Rats 19 } Mice 5 }	24
„ farms where treatment was carried out	6*
„ visits	376

(*The remaining infestations being dealt with under existing private contracts or by the occupier)

Council Properties—Sewage Works, Refuse Tips, etc.
Works of treatment and survey at the above entailed 342 visits,

Sewers

During the year test baiting was carried out on the Council's sewers at Hutspierpoint, Hassocks, Keymer, Poynings and Turners Hill. Infestations were found at Hurstpierpoint.

In October a check was made at the points affected when a slight infestation was found to persist and treatment was continued until no further "takes" were recorded.

DETAILS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

Overflowing cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Housing Defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Pollution of ditches	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rats and Mice	..	..	..	..	..	..	284
Unsatisfactory living conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fly infestations	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Vermin	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Keeping of pigs	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Smoke nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
							362

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936

The Council's new Conditions of Licence (based on the Home Office Model Code) came into force on the 1st April, 1959. All licensees had been given prior notice of this and during the year a survey was completed to ascertain if existing premises complied or otherwise. The following is a summary of the position :—

Petrol Filling Stations

No. inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
No. of petrol tanks concerned	..	..	..	..	..	..	136
.. found to require testing (installed at least 20 years ago)	..	..	..	..	..	..	79
.. —dipsticks unmarked	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
.. with vent pipes unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
.. hand operated pumps	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
.. electrically operated pumps	..	..	..	..	..	..	132
.. electrically operated pumps not complying with the regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
.. electrically operated pumps—licensee advised to check with manufacturers as to modification	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
.. installations not complying with the regulations regarding pre-setting, limiting device and/or emergency switch	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
.. delivery hoses worn	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
.. stations without adequate foam extinguishers	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
.. sand arrangements	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
.. where one or other of the required notices not displayed	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
.. requiring improvement to Diesel oil storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Petrol Filling Stations (Private use)

No. inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
No. of petrol tanks concerned	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
,, found to require testing (installed at least								
20 years ago)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
,, with unsatisfactory vent pipes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
,, electrically operated pumps	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
,, not complying with the								
regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
,, hand operated pumps	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
,, delivery hoses worn	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
,, stations without adequate foam extinguishers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
,, sand arrangements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
,, where one or other of the required notices not								
displayed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29

As will be seen, approximately 50% of the storage tanks had been installed at least 20 years and therefore required testing. It should also be pointed out that compliance with the Electrical Regulations came into force on the 1st January, 1960.

